

Caleb Bates's Reminiscences -

Feb. 28. 1844.

Maj. Thaxter was supposed to have been killed at the
Massacre of Fort M'Henry. News came to this town
to that effect. Thomas Brown saw him and
trapped him tied up to a tree. The Indians had
stripped him of all but his shirt & breeches. -
He had his commission in his pocket. Two French
officers came along - They asked them if they saw
commissioned officers in this way. They asked him
in broken English for his commission. He exhibited
it. They examined it - doored his partisans &
said "quick walk". He ran as fast as he
could run and reached Fort Edward in safety
the next morning. He heard the cries of war
- savages all night.

He was believed here to be dead. Dr Gay preached
his funeral sermon from the Text "Alas how often
I have said unto the Lord, Lamentations, ^{11 Samuel 18-33}

The first knowledge of his safety he brought
himself - He came into town on horseback.
My grandfather met him & told him "we
had buried you" &c. &c.

Vall. Bates

Pennibancus

Feb 28, 1844,

Prof. Whipple